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Diary № 22

8m° 16 1858

2d day 8m 16th to 1st day 8m 30th 1858 - Yesterday viz 1st day 8/15 I attended Religious Service as usual at the Spring St House and called on some of my relations including our Children Rhoda's & Fris families who were all in usual health - Rho: is about ready to remove to his new house on Hawthorn Street - built in last & the current year - The accounts of the Phoenix Company, have had my Chief attention for the first few days of the period under review - and the claims on my attention occasioned by my visit to Shirley have engrossed much of my time so that I have little opportunity to read the Current News much of which was of great interest. Showing the wide Spread enthusiasm with which the Successful laying of the Atlantic Telegraphic Cable was hailed throughout the United States the wonderful Achievement of this Wonderful age: in which must be recognized the hand of Devine Providence. as guiding silently and unseen. and to be heeded by our erring race the Succession of events towards a higher Civilization. a more just appreciation of the Capabilities, endowments, and destiny of Man under the light of the Christian Faith - of the Glimmerings, amid the insensibility & darkness, which as a general fact yet prevails in the World. Betoken the dawn of a new & better Epoch in the more just appreciation of the Religion of Christ which in its genuine purity breathes

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only Glory to God in the highest. Peace on earth and good will to all the human race. It was a happy augury, if not a divine appointment, that the first item of News to this Western Continent which came through the Submersed wires, was the announcement that Peace was restored between China and the allied European Powers England & France.

It may now be confidently expected that not many years will elapse before the Telegraphic wires will girdle the Globe, bringing into close intimacy the most distant nations, and thus hastening the time when the great fact of the brotherhood of Man shall be instinctively felt, as well as logically admitted, and all may recognize the obligation to act in unison with this Sentiment, and thus contribute by yielding to the Supremacy of the Great Law Love, inculcated by the Saviour & his apostles, to the introduction of a Millenial State which has so long exercised the imagination & the Faith of the So called Christian world since the advent of the Messiah.

The repairs of Mothers house corner of Water & William St. consequent on ascertaining its ruinous Condition by the ejection of the miserable trespassers who have persistently resisted all my efforts of warning & persuasion short of physical force to gain pos-

Sevier of the premises. This latter course was found the only remedy, by the Sheriff, after he had exhausted his threats & expostulations — On the 26th Inst. the Commissioners appointed to divide the Real Estate among my mothers heirs, made their report. But on examination there was found to be such great inequality in the Value, particularly the available Value of the Shares, which by the Will were to be equal, among the 8 primary heirs or their representatives, that Several Parties were dissatisfied, so that it will probably be set aside either by Common Consent or by order of the Judge of Probate. The only one of the heirs from out of town, present at the meeting with the Commissioners was Saml. W. Rodman. On that day I attended the monthly Meeting of Friends & was surprised to see Priscilla Greene who has been for many weeks sick at Matthew Howland's — She offered Prayer with great Physical debility though Strong in Christian Love and missionary Faith — She retired at the close of the Meeting for Worship — Rachel Howland returned her Credentials for the missionary Services which She engaged in some months since to several of the Municipal & State Reformatory institutions, comprising Several Public religious Meeting in Boston

4 which Services were performed to her own Peace of mind. and Statements to the kindness and respect with which She was every where met and treated. and to the presumptive benefit of her Gospel labors to those whom the visits were made by several friends who had been with her at Several of her visits and Missions meetings — all of which was very Satisfactory to the Month-by Meeting.

Benjamin Worcester was here on 6th day last and took note of My Sister Lydia's allotment — and examined the old home stead which has fallen to her Share — He dined with us and returned to Waltham in the afternoon —

Our daughter Ellen went last week with her cousins S. Rodman Morgan wife & sister Clara to spend a few days at the Bellevue House Newport they went on day and returned on day having had a pleasant visit of 5 or 6 days, as lookers on of the Fashionable Society and Participants in the dances and bathing exercises for which that Place is famous at this Season. George & Eliz. Hussey's infant Son (6 mos old) died on 5th day last he had always been very delicate & that they were doubtful of surviving the perils of infancy Called at their house to day and saw the mortal remains of infant loveliness — the Mother was a little unwell. and I did not see either of the Parents. who have our Sympathy in their affliction. I was

at meeting to day as usual. Priscilla Lyons was there in the Morning and delivered an exhortation though evidently very feeble in body. Though strong in the faith and Love of Christ. I was at Sister Elkins — and walked with ma there H.S daughter Susan to Thomas. after the 2d mo. 2d day 8/31 to 1st day 9m. 3th. At and about home through the week. We all attended the obsequies of Geo & Bessie Hussey's little boy on 2d day afternoon. the Services were after the manner of Friends — The English women friends and Rachel Howland were there and all spoke words of Sympathy & Consolation to the bereaved Parents with earnest exhortation to all to redeem the time allotted to us to make our Calling & election sure as we are in the various later Stages of life are also called away. the interment was at the Oak Grove Cemetery in the Maternal Grandfathers ground. My time & thoughts have been a good deal devoted to the necessary preliminaries for extending the Coal wharf Wall on Maxfield Street. a job that many considerations urge to be done though not without great misgivings on account of the very embarrassed condition of my pecuniary affairs — which for many years have been very trying but now greatly exaggerated by the stagnation in business. Our Son Edmund after the attempts to help him over the suspension of the last of 1855 — I could not have brought my mind to the

undertaking but for the encouragement of Geo. Hussey who is interested as an owner of the property resulting from the purchase of the St. Mill establishment on the Closing by auction of that disastrous Concern.. and the Sole legal owner thereof though it to be ultimately shared, if his advance can be paid from its earnings or otherwise in the proportion 20 to 980 the larger to be my share. But whether I shall ever be at any ease in my financial affairs is human. Ken looks very uncertain. though a most desirable boon to my whole family who have the subject of great difficulties and fearful apprehensions for the last 12 years. At Meeting on 5th day and to day as usual. the English friend also there, and Priscilla the invalid gave an impressive exhortation of ¼ an hour but evidently in great physical weakness. I called at Sister Eliza and Andrews between meetings and after tea at Lydia Russells. Aunt Nancy's Mary Gifford and William Swain the latter having been brought from the Island of Nantucket very ill. dropsy having supervened, on his long standing infirmities which has so long impaired his powers of locomotion. I saw only his wife from whom I received the impression that his long and philosophically endured sufferings and physical infirmities & trials would soon be over. — Jn. Hussey & Matthew Howland were here this evening called to see if it would be convenient to us

to receive a visit from Priscilla Greene & Mary Nicholson in Gospel love, tomorrow, to which we cordially assent.

2d day 9th mo 6 to 1st day 9 mo 12 The English friends mentioned in my note of last week were with us about noon of 2d day, and addressed us in the love of the Gospel. the Children were all present except Edmund, who was detained by other engagements - They informed us of the hopeless illness of our friend Hannah Taber, who accompanied Deborah C Hinsdale a minister of the Society from New York home to Nantucket, and some of the Meetings on the Cape. Where she was brought to the Summer residence of the Family in North Fairhaven. She died on 2 or 3 day - and was interred from the meeting house in that place. on which occasion the attendance was very large on 5th day - The communications from the English friends Rachel Howland and Gilbert Congdon of Providence were very satisfactory and edifying. I was obliged to leave early in the Meeting by a Spasmotic fit of Coughing consequent on a cold which has oppressed me through the week and otherwise restrained to some extent my course of action. Sister Eliza was here at tea on 6th day. I was at Meeting at Spring Street to day and called to see her at the Close.

9mo. 1855

2d day 9mo 13 to 1st day 9mo. 19 Occupied with my usual Cares and duties most of the week. My cold disabling me for my usual energy. which I the more regretted as the operations at the Coal yard on Maxfield St. required more of my personal attention & oversight that my health would permit — On 6th day I went with Chas W Morgan and my Son Thomas to Fall River to set in train some measures for an intelligent Valuation of the land there belonging to my mothers Estate — and returned as Exp — On 7th day Wm Rotch Weiter arrived from Wakefield in relation to the settlement of his grandmothers Estate, as the representative of my Sister Mary's Children — He was here in the afternoon and I gave what information I could on the general subject and in regard to the subdivision of the Real Estate as allotted by the Commissioners on the 26th ult. he staid with us to tea. he have taken up his quarters at Andw Robeson's notwithstanding I had asked him by letter to stay with us. He & those for whom he acts are justly dissatisfied at the delay which has attended the business. and though I have endeavored to keep them fully advised of the causes of it. I believe that they blame me

for what has been wholly caused by others. —
I was at Meet. to day as usual and called at
my Sister Elizas at the Close of the morng Meet.
and at Our Son Thomas after that in the
afternoon — Ma chere H & Sister Phoebe as
well as I are oppressed with Colds — Mrs. Jo-
sephine has the Whooping cough pretty Severely
— I called at Frankis on my return.
2d. day 9th. 20 to 1st. day 9/26th On 2d day W.m W.
Swain with whom in early life I was in habits of
intimate friendship Passed from Scenes of Earth
He had been very infirm, nearly deprived
of the Powers of Locomotion for many years.
but he bore his sufferings and infirmities
with remarkable equanimity & philosophy
He was in habit of Spend. his Summers at
Nantucket Island of which he was one half
owner and was carried there again this Sum-
mer but he was soon obliged to return, about
the 1st. of this month Dropsical Symptoms having
supervened on his other Complaints. The remains
were taken to the Island for interment near those
of his only Son & child Robert, who died while
on a tour to the South for his health about 15 years
ago — a Steamboat was Chartered for the occasion
and took many of the mourners & friends thither.

10 9 mo. 1858

In the morng of 4th day 23d of the month a daughter was added to our Son Frank's family — mother & Child very favorably reported of — Ma chere H is sick with a severe Cold on her lungs &c so that she has been obliged to be content with the testimony of others to the facts, which however come quite direct through D. Abbe who is in attendance on both. My cold which has been severe for 3 weeks has kept me at home 4 ds. this week. I walked to my Sister Eliza's to day, but did not think it prudent to attend the Religious meetings as is my wont. Occupied in writing up my account. Reading &c — Subject in regard to a low diet, indian Meal gruel &c Dr. H. recommendation. William R. Wister went home on 2d day afternoon — several of my wifes friends have called — and Geo. Hussey was here to day to see me — Our Sons &c have been frequently in — Thomas has been a good deal occupied of late in measures for setting the appraisement of mother's Real Estate by Competent and disinterested parties with a view of setting aside the award of the Commissioners if the latter cannot be induced to review their very unequal allotments. Sister Eliza's Cold is better but the rain prevented her visiting us as usual on 6th Day.

2d day 9 mo. 27 to 1st day 10 mo. 3 For the past week until yesterday I have remained mostly at home as an invalid, though I have been out daily for an hour or two in the middle of the day, at other times busy at home with my various duties & Ma chere H. has been quite ill during the week and Dr Abbe has visited her daily, with fears of a serious attack of Lung fever, but we are now in hope from a mitigation of the Symptoms these two days that this serious form of the disease may be averted. # An event of much interest to the family has marked the past week Horatio Hathaway who has evinced a particular interest in our dear Ellen, and whose attentions have seemed to meet a favorable reception. it now appears had declared his affectionate regards in an offer of marriage week before the last - which proposal she wisely & dutifully took time to consider and after consultation with her Parents, & those most tenderly interested in her, feeling herself warranted in so doing gave him an affirmative answer on 6th day last. I saw him on the subject on 7th Day and gave the proposition my approval, in accordance with the views of my wife & Children & their

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aunt Phoebe, whose interest in her & the other children has ever been truly maternal. —
As a measure deliberately considered, and decided on, I trust with the Divine blessing, and a faithful reliance on our Father in Heaven whose guidance & direction, may they both seek in faith, it may redound to their eternal spiritual and eternal comfort & happiness. —
I was at mtg to day as usual. Called at Aunt Nancy's & at M[illegible] Sister Eliza's between meetings — and I called a second time on Sister E to announce to her the Engagt. which was to day communicated to our Bro's families and our most intimate friends — In the aft I called at Matthew Howland's to see the English friends — found a few others there. and joined in a season of retirement which had been commenced — both spoke interestingly — Jos. Howland a friend from N.Y. State Pres't of the Coy. who also spoke as he did at both mtgs. to day — I stopped on my return at Geo Hussey Jr's and spent half an hour with him & my niece — in which time our Son Jos. called in. — His wife & the infant are doing well the former sits up a little daily — I called in part to M. Howland but I was out

2 day 10 mo 4 to 11 day 10 mo 10 — My wife has continued quite ill through the week though the inflammation of the lungs the Dr thinks is abating. She has been confined to her bed — except for the short time required to re-arrange it when the Chair and Sofa have been its substitutes. but for most of the time she has been measurably comfortable — few have been admitted to her room. but the dear Ellen's friend Horatio yesterday. he has been daily here and sometimes at tea — We are all confirmed by a better acquaintance that our dear daughter may be safely confided to his care & protection — with the blessing of Divine Providence — to whom may both look for strength & ability to fulfil towards each other the duties of the conjugal relation, to heighten each others joys and lighten each others sorrows by the sacred sympathy of kindred hearts sanctified by Heavenly Grace. the proposed connection seems to approved by his connections as well as hers. of which she has had many proofs by congratulatory calls, messages &c. I have been much occupied by my Cg House & more active duties connected with the wharf wall which is in progress at the foot of Maxfield St — a job somewhat critical in execution on account of the unequal

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surface of the mud bottom of the locality. Some indications of the settling of the raft out of line called for precautionary measure, which will be completed next week. with probable success

I was at Sister Eliza's. And'w Son Frank's nephew Geo Hussey's & in the evg at Matthew Howland's besides attending Mg as usual — I did not see my daughter in Law as she was going down — She & the baby (Fanny) are very favorably reported of. We had at Mg the last public Services of the English friends Priscilla Grave & Mary Nicholson. and in the evg the last social exhortation to a Christian life which we shall probably be favored with — as they leave tomorrow for Phila & to pass the short interval of a few days before they leave our shores to return to their homes in England. They will have been absent about 2 years. bearing with them the unmistakable proofs of a divine mission in the Self Sacrificing Spirit of Christian Love. for the glorious object of winning Souls to Christ & of recalling the Members of their religious Communion to their first principles. the unconditional Surrender of the heart to the Spirit of Truth & an unwavering obedience to its Heavenly monitions. May

they be favored to meet their friends in Safety & with the high consolations which pertain to such devotion as theirs under great Physical weakness & infirmity as it respects her on whom has rested the Special Commission — and whose deportment & appearance has struck mightily harmonized with her Saintly Office.

2d day 10/11 to 1st day 10/17 Mrs Chenoweth has been slowly improving the past week. the inflamation of the lungs slowly subsiding though not unattended in the earlier days with distressing spells of Coughing attended with much expectoration. My time has been much given to the wharf wall operation to secure the foundation from sliding to the north by stretching Chains to South wall and other permanent attachments. The proposition of C. H. Morgan for a more equal distribution on plans made by him & my Son Thomas after much thought and time devoted to the same and its clear linear & mathl illustrations. is acceptable to all of the heirs except the heirs of my bro. Wm & Sister Anna who give it no countenance. The probability therefore is that the whole matter will be to be commenced de novo under the Sanction of the Probate Court and in Strict accordance with the provisions of the laws for the Settlement of Estates of deceased persons. with the heavy losses which may follow an entrenchment behind the Statutes of Limitations.

I had abandoned the hope of being at the meeting

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of the Carleil New Garden Scholars on the 20 the Inst. which was to take place at West Chester Pa. as the house & on the invitation of our Factious old friend Joshua Hoops - my bro "Benj" was on the point of setting off on 7th day to be present. when he rec'd a letter saying that the meeting was deferred to 12th mo 1. on acct of the death of one of the number and other reasons connected with the convenience of some of the proposed Party. H. Hathaway has been a frequent visiter to our dear Ellen's - His uncle Francis who is confined at home with a serious bowel disease which precludes walking except in sparingly moving about the house and gives his family & friends much anxiety was visited by Ellen and very kindly rec'd - Imade a call there on 2d day but it was not convenient for me to see him - I was at Mg to day as usual, and called at Sister Elizas, Son Franks - and saw our daughter in law & her infant Fanny for the 1st time - both mother & Child are doing very well & have rode several times without inconvenience & on one occasion they & the baby visited ma chere H's tide room. I called afterwards for a few minutes at Thos Brothers Benj & Chas & Sister Sarah were here to day 2d day 10/18 to 1st day 10/24 This week has been spent in attending to the whf wall operations & ordinary home cares & duties. ma chere H. has been slowly improving. so that

the D^r has nearly suspended his visits. but she recuperates very slowly and will not probably be able to leave her room this week to join the family below Stairs. On 4^t^h day attended the funeral services of Lucia the wife of John Whitridge who died of Consumption after an illness of a few months. the Rev. Mr Thomas officiated very acceptably, they have always been friends of our young people — Edmund was [illegible] Jr. Groomsmen on his marriage and officiated as the last offices of Friendship at the Class Ceremonies. I attended Meetings as usual, and called at Sister Elizas. Aunt Nancy & Lydia Russells — at the last merely to enquire after Charles. who is wasting away from his feeble & loving mother & Sisters. Horatio Hath away was with us last previously to go with Ellen to Church as well as frequently though the week. his uncle Francis is much of an invalid. and was visited by D^r Bigelow of Boston in consultation with D^r Bartlett. His debility of Constitution Consequent on his residence in Canton admits of but slight prospect of his restoration to good health. I had two interviews this week with And^w Robeson Jr in relation to the business of Mothers Estate. He with the adm^rs of my bro^s Wms Estate are much opposed to a division of the allotments made by the Com^rs of the Real Estate. though I cannot see that they have any sufficient reasons for so doing. if an equality with the other heirs will satisfy them.

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2d day 10m° 25th to 1st day 10m° 31 The business at the wharf wall has taken much of the working hours in the past week. The severe gale of 1st & 2d days having suspended operations & made with the very full tide a wild scene at that point, breaking up the booms which confined the several logs & the course of the wind however I believe prevented any being lost — Added chains to secure the vale from moving to the north and substituted there for ropes before used at the head of the piles with the same intention. Sister Lydia came from Fall River with Benj.n on his return from the Pocasset meeting — and She dined with us on 3d day. She staid at Sister Sarahs' — My duties at the Whf & Cg Room prevented my seeing more of her till 7th day when I called & attended her & Julia Wetherald, who came with her husband the 6th previous (he having returned in the morning train) to the Cars — The rainy weather prevented our seeing them at our house, and confined their Calls to Lydia Russell for whom their sympathies are strongly excited on account of the dying State of Charles her infirm Son who has been a Sufferer from an early age with the Spit disease which is now carrying him to his Grave to the great grief of his Parents and Relatives. Whom

to relieve and assist by his earnings, first as a Clerk and then as a Lawyer for which he prepared himself when his health had so declined as to disqualify him for the other employment. has been the leading inspiration to that indomitable energy & perseverance of will which it seemed that nothing but the near approach of death could bend from his honorable ends of filial & fraternal duty. Frail and fragil ever the inroads of his progressive and incurable disease for the last year has wasted him to a shade. I called on 7th day to see Francis Hathaway the Uncle of our daughters affianced friend Horatio who has been confined some months with ulcers in the legs which are very serious in their nature. He was rather better than for some days before and looked forward to restoration to his previous feeble health, which has been long impaired by a residence of six years in the debilitating Climate of Canton, China. I was at Meet. P. to day as usual and called on Sister Eliza L. & at Franks & Thos. — all pretty well — Eliz. & her infant Fanny much improved, the mother considering herself nearly well again — Rachel H continues slowly to improve & hopes soon to take the air abroad & to be liberated from her Sick Room. Sister P. has had a bad Cold but is better &

2d day 10 mo 31 to 1st day 11 mo 4 On 1st day night I sat up with Charles Russell — He had a pretty good night considering his very feeble condition He wanted but little done for him. I have given my attention to my business & home duties in the usual variety & routine. The weather has been unfavorable for much progress on the wharf wall. Made enquiries for a new Clerk for Thirty. N C Perry desiring to be released to attend to his affairs of his fathers Estate in Georgia — Rachel & Rode out on the only favorable day which we have had this week. but She has not yet joined the family below Stairs — deterred by the unfavorable weather. I was at meeting on 5th day & to day as usual on this day a minister from New York State John Thom was present and preached. I called at the close of the Mg. Meeting at Sister Elias and at Sister Sarahs. Charles Still absent in Penn. — at the close of the 2d mg. I called to see Aunt Nancy Mary Gifford Franks & Thomas and found all pretty well. The early twilight reminds us that the Sun is fast approaching the Winter Solstice — . the withdrawal of the Solar rays have told decisively on the forests, which have nearly lost their beauty for autumnal drapery. the indications of the checked vitality of the vegetable world & the elaborating organs of

2d day 18th to 1st day 11mo 14th Occupied through the week in attending to my business at the wharf, & Room and in the family, with full employment but not much of material interest unless it be the work relating to our house warming apparatus viz the furnace — which is of a unique construction it having been put up, or selected by & under the advice of the late Cornelius Coolidge of Boston whose advice I sought in 1827 when building the house — for several of the last years it has been a little troublesome in all [illegible] the smoke and Coal Gas at kindling the Copper pipe which replaced the Iron pipe a year or two after it was first put up, was found on taking down the brick work corroded at the lower angle, which was supposed to be the only defect, which being repaired the difficulty was thought to be remedied, but on Starting the fire the next day it was proved that we were mistaken & on 7th day the main brick encasement was removed & after a days work by the men, the perforated & tubed Sheet iron encasement which was fitted to the heater, a rectangular parallelopipedon about 18 in. Square & 2 ft. high made of thick Sheet Iron, was found to be burned & corroded so as to let out the Smoke & Gas from the Soap Stone fire box — the whole was accordingly taken out to be repaired if practicable & expedient as soon as possible. In the mean time we must forego the convenience & Comfort of the apparatus

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which we especially missed, in the present state of the weather & health of the family — ma chere H. mending but slowly from her illness. We had Hannah Hall[?] away to dine with us last week, when she was first with us and we had her company at one or two other meals. but to day She had a faint[?] turn in the forenoon which admonishes us that much care is necessary to guard her convalescence from relapses by all the precautions which our arrangements will permit Sister Lydia was here again this week but her time did not admit of her Calling at our house. I was at Mg on 5th day & to day as usual. Called to see sister E. & C M Morgan's family Who viz he his son in law George & Bessy and this mg from Phila Called also to enquire after Chs Russell, who still lingers in great weakness & prostration, and to see Francis Morgan Who has been Confined at home for several days with a swelled face — Called also at our son Thomas' — and saw Annie & the Children. he was not at home H. H was with us at tea on this & several other days of the week whose Company is always acceptable to us and our daughter — C M Morgan was in at twilight

2d day 11mo 15th to 1st Day 11/21 My business engagements have taken most of my working hours at the Q[uarterly] Meeting House, what &c. On 2d day night I watched with Charles Russell

which was comfortable compared with those on preceding though like all days & nights a season of great prostration & discomfort. his Cousin Matthew was in the house who by the wish of the family took on himself some of the more trying duties — The Sufferer was quite clear in intellect considerate and patient. The health of my wife remains much as last week, but without any special drawback as on first day of last week. The House continues cool from the State of the weather & the absence of the furnace which is not yet fully repaired but I hope it will be in process of re setting to day. Mrs & his wife have been quite unwell the former from the local trouble on his face & lip. the latter with a whitlo on her finger attended with severe sympathetic pain in the head & general prostration, as judged by their Physician Dr. Mattis — they are both reported better to day though the latter is scarcely at all out of bed. Mr. was out one day at his place of business, but thought he was the worse for the effort — My wife's brother surprised us by his arrival from Nyork on 6th day P.M. to make us a little visit — he reports our relations there & in Skaneateles in the enjoyment of pretty good health — Our niece Emily Rotch has been the subject of much anxiety this week but the reports are now more favorable. I called at Sister Elisa's Cor Harris, on son Fri's H. C. Jones to day — was at neither as usual. Ellen's friend Horatio is with us more or less daily —

2d day 11 mo. 22d to 3d. day 12 mo. 1st The 1st. week of the 3 embraced in this heading was Spent at home in attending to my various duties. having an eye to my proposed visit to the Quill at Shirley - I was at the Monthly meeting on 5th day and acted as representative of the Preparative Meeting. The Maxfield Street wharf wall was brought within about one weeks work of completion with favorable weather I was at meeting as usual on first day and called at my Sons & Sisters &c On 2d day I set off in the morning train for Boston via Fairhaven about 6 in. of light Snow which had fallen in the night retarded the Speed of the Cars so that I was too late to take the benefit of the 11 Oclk train for Fitchburg &c for Shirley I therefore left in the 1st. train at ¼ before 1 - and stopped to see my Sister Lydia Rugles at Waltham where I spent a couple of hours or more very pleasantly. Many with her Self Children, the young 2 weeks old one very well and interesting the mother had rode out once. Sister L was also very well for her. Brother I did not See as he had gone that day to Boston - took the Cars at 4½ for Shirley and was there in due time. Took up my Quarters at the Inn now owned and kept by Hon. Ivy Bolgarton a brother of the late Nathl

gifted and amiable Mr. Mayo. I found the appointment of the house better than ever before which made my home there quite satisfactory My time was chiefly spent at the Office of the P.W.S. C. M.J. Co. in attending to my duties as Treasurer — The change of Clerks. D.R. Perry leaving for the South to give his time and services to the Cotton Mills in Georgia owned by his family and relations — The Successor Nath.l Foby who has been about a month under Dwights instruction required some of my time and would have had more if my engagements at home had not obliged me to leave for home on 3.d day the 13.th — The supply of water is too limited to allow the full complement of machinery to run at the time, which is serious fact at this cold season. when the Springs are liable to be arrested by ice. I attended meetings twice at the Vestry of the Universalist & once at each of the other houses, to wit, Orthodox (so called) Congregationalists & the Baptist. I left at 12 ½ P.M. for home where I arr.d about 6 ½ P.M. and was favored to find all well except Mrs Chenoth, who is better than when I left her sister Eliza & Horatio I met with the family at tea. — The sad & sudden death from hemorrhage, at Wake

field has marked this period. of Wm Logan Fe hur jr. son of Thomas who has been an invalid for a few months. a subject of anxiety to his Parents & friends. but not without strong hope of his recovery I judge him to be about 23 yrs-old. a very correct & promising young man, whose death following so soon the demise of his uncle Charles Lundy will prolong the grief which has pressed so heavily on the Wakefield families. and should be an admonition to us all to prepare for the closing Scenes of this mortal life in a well founded hope Fa reunion with the loved Ones who have gone before, in the Spirit land, where the Righteous of all generations participate in a higher communion with the Father and the Son in which consists the unfading bliss of Heaven — Charles Russell whom I left apparently on the immediate verge his mortal life, is reported considerably revived. so that a still longer term of Physical Suffering than any of his friends anticipated may in Divine Wisdom be allotted him

2d day 12 mo 15 to 1st day 12/21 My time has been devoted to my business concerns which were more pressing from my late absence — The Maxfield St. Whf mail

was brot to a close for the Season on 6th Day. the Cold weather having interrupted the work. Cf House duties is arrear, togeth with the Short days have obliged me to forego all but the most pressing duties On 7th day our Pam 7. were invited to Sister Sarahs in Compliment to Ellen & Horatio where I was of the Company. Ma chere H & Sisters being detained by there delicate health — I called at Sister Elvira and Geo Hussey's to see Elizr on D. in law who with Frank & the Children are Spending the time of Geo i absence in New York with her mother I also was at Thomas's to see the Children who have the whooping cough severely Thos & Anna I met on their way to call at our house & at Mtg. as usual — the old friend Charles Coffin was there & preached Acts & Pet & Our Son in law Elect is with us more or less Clerkly — to our Common Satisfaction

4th day 12/25 to 1st Day 12/28 My home & business duties have had most of my time, On 4th day Eve we had Some of Horatio's friends to tea. viz S.G. Morgan & Caroline & Elizr Stone. Joshua Stone & his two uncles were not with us, both of the latter being unwell. Sister Elvira was also with us Thos & Fan. were also here. I called at the Close of the day at Lydia Russell's

See 2 pages forward

30 See pages 28 & 29 follow p 31

1 mo day 12/27/58 to 1 mo day 1 mo 2 d 59 Engaged in my usual cares and occupations, which always press heavily at this season and particularly at the present time in consequence of the great addition to my previous severe financial embarrassments by the failure in business of our Son Edmund whose insolvency the last of 1856 was sought to be averted by heavy liabilities then assumed by me — a very unfortunate attempt, which did him no good and involved in his Calamity all of his family. Such is the fallibility of human judgment, but we must meet the privations which it will involve with fortitude consoled by the reflection that the motives which led to the effort to assist him, and to avert the losses which to a small extent would have followed on others at that time, were good though the result has proved very disasterous, to others as well as to his own family. Christmas last week in connection with the able lectures of T Starr King and the Charity address of Everett made it a period of unusual interest and excitement — giving enjoyment to many young & old in hanging wreaths of evergreens, in loading Christmas trees & lights which our young folks participated at the church and elsewhere — on the evg. of 5th day of that week I went to my cousin Lydia Russell's to take my last (as it has proved) visit at the bed side of

of her Charles. who from his life of infirmity has
been the object of her tenderest solicitude, as well
as of his sisters — he passed a more comfortable night
than from his great debility and emaciation I was
led to anticipate — evincing a remarkable pa-
tience and resignation under his allotment and a
cheerfulness, in which his afflicted family partici-
pate — notwithstanding their sorrow and straitened
circumstances — On 3d day night of this week to which
this mem: relates our son Edmund sat up with
him which proved to be the last of his life
— it was one of unusual restlessness, the prelude
of exhausted vitality though attended with the same
considerateness and unwillingness to give trouble which
has marked his protracted and trying infirmities
and sufferings — he died about 6 o'clock of the
following afternoon, quite submissive and resigned
the funeral services were held at the house filled by the
relatives & friends of the family — the Rev: M. Weiss of-
ficiated in very interesting & impressive manner bear-
ing testimony to the purity of his heart and the vivacity
of his intellect which fitted him for a participation in the higher
ministries of the Spiritual Immortality which follows
this Mortal life — the remains were entombed in the Rural
Cemetery with her & our Children follows with the other members of the fam
— The lecture on 3d day was by Horace Mann on the influence of
College trainers on Society & the World — & worthy of his reputation

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poor Dick Son has been growing weaker so that his end is probably very near. On the next night I sat up with him — he wanted but little done and was less changed than I expected to find him — He bear his sufferings with great patience & fortitude — but is desirous to be released — On this afternoon (21st day) I with our Children attended the funeral Services on the very sudden death of Mary Wilkins. the young woman who has been much in our family as a Seamstress for the 20 or 25 years — She was found dead in her bed on 6th day morng. — her sudden death is attributed to the distortion of her person from a curvature of the Spine so as to impede the action of the Vital functions — the Obsequies were held at the Pacific Church, of which She was an esteemed Member Our daughters & self, with Mrs Alex Rider to fill the Vacant seat, went with the procession to Dartmouth Cemetery. I was at Mg in the morng & arrived & called Sister Elvira — having been early at our Son Thomas's The Services at the Pacific Church were very impressive. the Rev. Mr Stowe presented a just idea of her Character. remarkable for Humility as a Christian professor and her unoffending & amiable disposition — be long felt in our family to useful has been her [illegible]

and so attaching his mental & moral qualities.
The Lyceum Lecture this week was by Thos. Starr King
on the distinction between Life & existance in man
very able and interesting. On 5th day Edw.
Everett on 6th day delivered for the benefit of
of the Orphans Home his masterly and incom-
parable Charity discourse to a well filled
house. which impressed me more vividly
than anything I ever heard from him or
any one else for oratorical Power and
eloquence — a most satisfactory and
impressive evidence of the justice of his
fame as the Machless Orator of Amer-
ica if not of the world at the present
time. And he worthily applies his ex-
traordinary Powers, all unselfishly, in
the Cause of benevolence and Patriotism
and learning — making him a real bene-
factor to his age and an honor to his
Country — The industry which has led to his
eminence in Scholarship and the extent and
variety of his attainments has restrained the
application of his time & powers to the conven-
tionalities of Social life so as to have led to the
charge of coldness & reserve. but no eloquence & ora-
tory like his can co-exist but with the highest intellect & warmest
heart.

1859 1m°.

2d day 1m° 3d to 1st day 1m° 9 Engaged in the current duties of my position. attended with much anxiety on the near approach of the Maturity of the large notes given most unfortunately the 1st of 1857 with the Hope of Saving from bankruptcy our Son Edmund. but which have been so seriously disappointed there is no way for me to pay these Obligations but by making new ones by the Cr of the Same friend to whom those now nearly due are payable — and no definite action has yet been had on the Subject — a violent Snow Storm occurred on 3d day & on 6th day a copious rain & thaw which nearly dissipated the Snow. filling the Streams in this region and giving the hope that a Similar effect has been experienced at the mill in Shirley so as to Supply our mill there which has been Short of an adequate Supply for the past 3 months. Bayard Taylor lectured at the Lyceum on 3d day eve on the Arctic regions of Europe. which notwithstanding the great fall of Snow was well attended Quite a number of women being of the audience. I was interested in the lecture & the Lecturer having never seen this Celebrated traveller before. I was at meeting to day as usual. and called at Sister Elvira A. Robersons & Russells. Gw Husseys & Thomas's — his wife is suffering from a bilious attack the Childrens whooping Cough does not seem to impair their general health. Julia Spent the afternoon here — Frank Elkinton at G. Hs. they are pretty well.

2: day 10th to 11th day 16th My business engagements have claimed my Chief attention the past week. which included the prospective maturity of the large obligations which I assumed two years since for our Son Edw.d and the probate action on the report of the Com.rs for dividing my Mothers real Estate. The Court decided on 4th day in accordance with the wishes of all the heirs present. the Legal advice which was sought by those who wished to sustain their division, having satisfied them that the report must be set aside for the illegality which if sustained would render every heir liable to the minor heirs when they become of age. for their legal rights in the Estate — a conference was held after the rising of the Court at Ex. Judge Prescotts Office of the parties, and it was thought best to have the proper measures taken to get permission for the Sale of the interests of the minor heirs in the Real Estate by auction, and that the adult heirs sh.d at the same time offer their whole interest in the same that the whole might be Specially & Legally appropriated. if the absent Parties should agree, before the 1st of the 6th m.o next among the heirs and the public at large in the manner suggested if no different views should result from more deliberate reflection and consultation among the parties in interest. The agreement by which certain personal Estate was to

be considered as Real Estate being given up and abandoned for the reasons before suggested arising from its illquality — Our S. in law has been quite confined by indisposition to their home till 7th day when she was here. their Children suffer severely from Whooping Cough which has led to the calling in of medical advice — our daughters Ellen & She have been & are now especially the latter with Colds so as to keep them both at home. the former all the week, the latter to day — We had Frank & Eliz. with their little boy to dine & on 6th day — I was at Mg. as usual on 5th day & to day a beautiful prayer from R S Howland marked the Mg Service — I called at Sister Elizas — and took a meditative walk at the Close of the 1st Mg otherwise at home Thos called in the Mg. & Ellens friend was with us at tea &c

2d day 10mo 17 to 1st Day 23d Engaged busily through the week to get my business in order to leave on 2d day to attend the Annual meeting of the Fall River Coal Mg Coy at Fall River and to make a visit to the Mill at Shirley to prepare the Accounts for the Annual Meeting of that Coy now near at hand — attended Meetings as usual, and made Calls on our Children's families, Sister Elizas &c — Mr Chase A continues to improve slowly, and has rode out once or twice, so that it will not be imprudent for me to leave home, although Edmund and our Son in

law elect both appeal to be in New York next week
2d. day 1m.o 24 to 5th. day 3rd 17 — On the 1st. day named
I left home in the RR. Cars for F. River, and attended the
annual Meeting of the Locust Mang Co., which was a
Satisfactory one — the Same officers as last year being
re-elected — Our Head Clerk R.C. Luther is the only drawback
to the favorable prospects of the Concern — He is however
better than some days past, and it is hoped will soon
be able to resume his duties. so long and satisfactorily
fulfilled. neither the former nor the present treasurer
having taken on themselves any responsibility in re-
gard to the details of the Accounts. — The position of
the Co. is however improved in this department by
the accession of Chase as assistant who being more
familiar with the most generally approved System of
accounts, has introduced the Same into the Office. The fu-
ture business of the Company is encouraging — So that
if no unforeseen turn Should come, the current year
will probably show as good a result as any for
a long period. — I took minutes of the Quarterly
Statements — and attended to Some of my private bu-
siness as well as somewhat to that of my mothers
Estate through the afternoon and eve — Remain'd
to take the early Steam Boat train for Boston and thirty
I lodged at the Richardson House — where were also
bro.s Benj.a S.M. Rodman Edw.d Mollby and A Robeson Jr
we Spent the last of the eve together & I availed of

the occasion to have some conversation with S. W. Rod-man respecting their intentions touching the indebtedness of their fathers' to their Grandmothers Estate. He told me that they had come to no conclusion except as to the minor heirs of his brother Alfred. in regard to which the Statute of limitations would govern - and therefore that one quarter of the Amount would not be recognized by the Administrators - Further than that they had come to no conclusion in the matter - He reiterated the Charge that they had been badly used in my action as Executor of my mothers Will. But with how much justice I am quite willing the other heirs should decide, or any indifferent person from the letters which have passed between us and all other sources of evidence. having the full conviction that the charge cannot be sustained.

I was awakened the next morning in time to take passage in the Steamboat train for Boston where we arrived about 7 AM - in good time to avail of the 8½ train for Shirley on the ride to Boston and the walk across the City I had the company of my friend Hale Remington, which was not only pleasant but profitable in the walk by the aid he gave me in the transportation of my Valise - his walk coinciding with mine as far as the Station of the Eastern - or Maine Rail Road Station - Arrived here at Shirley

about 9½ Acll. and repaired to the Inn. now a very comfortable and satisfactory home under the keepership and ownership of Henry Edgarton the brother of the late lovely and good and talented Mrs Mayo — as might be expected from the influence of such excellence in a Sister. he has the intellectual tastes and refinement of feelings to which makes him an agreeable companion on our daily meetings at meals & Mrs Edgarton has equal merit in her department so that I could not wish to be better suited in a home at Shirley — where being installed I went to the mill premises and to my duties in the Office where I was industriously engaged five days excepted till the 17th of 3 Mo. The Change of Clerks which took place on the day that I left Shirley on my previous visit in the 12th month, and the unsatisfactory state in which some of the accounts were left by D. K. Perry greatly enhanced my labor in preparing for the biennial Settlement of the accounts of the Coy. the troubles and losses which were entailed by the imprudence of the Agent and the frustration of the Cotton manufacturing business in 1857-58 having prevented the adjustment at the end of 1857 — I left Shirley on the afternoon of 5th day 3 Mo. 17th and reached home in due course by the old Colony Rail Road — and had the satisfaction of finding our family & friends in usual health — In a short

H. having continued to improve in health slowly during my absence. The weather was very pleasant for winter at Shirley good sleighing nearly all the time and for a month or more previous — the walking sometimes very icy and at others very wet from the partial thaws & dissolving recent snows — while heavy rains & mud have predominated. On the day that I arrived at Shirley they had in the evg a ferinners Supper & ball at the Inn — and on the evg of the day that I left there a village ball was to come off there — Mrs Ch. Edgarton sister of Mrs H. E. was taken sick on the 1st occasion and detained under the Dr's Care most of the time of my Stay, with her husband and little boy Fred. &c — I made a call on them the first day before I left, and had an introduction to his mother who with an unmarried daughter have rooms in the same house. I was gratified at this incident, as I have always had a wish to see the old lady ~~was~~ since I read on my earlier visits the memoirs of her admirable daughter — During my Stay at Shirley my days and evgs were given to the books and accounts of the Co[y] except on first days when I attended one or more of the meeting for Divine

worship in the Village. & spent the rest of the day in reading at home Mr. Edgartons library affording interesting works — The weather was moderate for the Climate. and the Sleighing good except the last few days — I left for home on the afternoon of the 17th. and had the satisfaction of finding my wife improved in health and the others of the family in usual health

6th. day 3m. 18 to 1st. day 4m. 24th. On getting home my time was fully occupied by the accumulation of the current business of the weeks of my absence among which the Meteorological Notes to be completed & sent to Washington — then the Rotch Whg Co. Acct. and annual Meetg. — the business of my Mothers Estate. — and my own private affairs and home duties; together with preparing the report of the condition of the Ph.a & C. M.g. Coy for the Ann. Meetg., which has not yet taken place owing to the absence in Town of the Treas. Soon after I returned we had my niece A. R. Davis for our Guest. and afterward bro. Edm.d & our niece Eliz.a Barnes were with us about 10 Ds — The Rotch Whg Co. & the other Insts were here in person or by Substitutes on 5th. or 6th. day the 24th. & 25th. Ult.o to draw lots for the — Eight subdivisions of the Real Estate & thus a division was made

of the Estates — into which the land in the several localities had previously been classed by my son Thomas assisted by his uncle E. H. Morgan during my absence at Shirley — a mode of distribution which pleased every one from any suspicion of unfair dealing. W. R. W. was with us on 4th day at dinner — and took his departure for Phila. he in the afternoon. — I made calls on our relatives and attended my usual place of public Worship on first days — Our son in law elect. has been with us daily and our married Children occasionally at meals & otherwise on the night of the 18th Inst an extensive fire took place on Mechanic's Lane near the Library which destroyed the Stables & work shops in the locality and endangered very seriously the Library building — Several of Horatio's relations & friends made us an evening Visit including Joshua & Eliz. Stone, two of the Nicholson's and a daughter of my business friend Wm. A. Lamy of Boston — I attended Meeting to day at Spring St. and heard two excellent Sermons from Christopher Healey of Nantucket — excellent in matter eloquent and pleasing in manner and genuine Quakerism in principle all of our children except Frank attended in

the afternoon — I called at Frankl Thomas'
Horace Sherman's, my friend & bro. in Law Geo.
Hussey and at Cousin Jas Arnold & on my newly
married Cousin Mr. Smith — the two last
after tea —